

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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*Helping People
Help the Land*

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Transmitted via Email

December 1, 2006

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 300-7-5

SUBJECT: LTP – WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVES PROGRAM (WHIP).

Purpose. To distribute information relative to FY 2007 WHIP allocations and policy for accepting applications.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2007.

Minnesota's initial FY-07 financial assistance allocation is \$563,056 for producer contracts. I am recommending that each Area receive a 2007 WHIP allocation based on their historic use of WHIP funds. The break down of these funds, as a percentage of our state allocation, is as follows:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Initial 2007 WHIP Allocation</u>	<u>Base Funding Level</u>
1	9%	\$50,675
2	19%	\$106,980
3	20%	\$112,611
4	9%	\$50,675
5	9%	\$50,675
6	9%	\$50,675
7	20%	\$112,611
Openlands Project	5%	\$28,154

Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis. Applications will be approved based on the applicable ranking tool score unless otherwise approved by the State Conservationist. The appropriate Assistant State Conservationist (FO) will determine how their area applications will be approved and at their discretion, may make county allocations in Protracts.

A revised Toolkit cost list has been developed and an amended WHIP Docket, Ranking Worksheet and "WHIP Application Checklist" (CPM, Part 517, Subpart MN517) has been distributed.

Direct questions you may have regarding the 2007 WHIP program guidance to Mark Oja, State Biologist.

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

DIST: AC
ARC
FO
Program Assistants